JUSTIN TIME

JUSTIN TRUDEAU LAUNCHES HIS CAMPAIGN FOR THE FEDERAL LIBERAL LEADERSHIP BEFORE AN EBULLIENT CROWD IN MONTREAL PAGE 8

WINNIPEG metro®

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Wind whips up flames as parts of Manitoba burn

In the south. People forced to evacuate as gusts push fires close to several Manitoba towns

ELISHA DACEY
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The provincial government had little choice but to break out the water bombers to save several southeastern Manitoba towns from sudden wildfires Tuesday.

Three water bombers and two more from Ontario were dispatched to several municipalities to put out fires, including a blaze near Vita, Man., that claimed three homes, burned a highway bridge and injured two people. Two women had to be taken out of their cars and driven to hospital after they tried to cross the burning bridge and fell into the ravine below, said a witness at the scene.

The residents of Vita were forced to evacuate to nearby Steinbach for several hours while crews, made up of mostly volunteer firefighters, fought the fire back over Highway 201.

Most of the residents were back home Tuesday evening as the winds, which gusted in some parts of the province to 85 km/h, died down.

But Vita wasn't the only town in trouble, as another fire in the RM of Tache threatened both the towns of Richer and Ross. About 50 homes in Ross were evacuated. As of press deadline, residents were not back in their homes, although Mayor William Danylchuk of the Rural Municipality of Taché said he was hopeful they would be able to go home by dark.

The province restricted backcountry travel without a permit in the area due to the fires Tuesday, and a campfire ban is in effect.

Follow Elisha Dacey on Twitter @elishadacey

Winnipeg wasn't immune to the wind Tuesday as fire bloomed anew near Charleswood in the morning. See story on page 3. TYLER PEACOCK/METRO

Other fires

There were reports of other grass and brush fires throughout southeastern Manitoba, including:

- A grass fire near St. Laurent
- A grass fire near Anola
- A brush fire near St. Malo
- A grass fire near Milner Ridge

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NEWS 1

Manitobans won't see bacon shortage, but prices will rise

Whole hog. Manitoba exports more bacon than we can eat

SHANNON VAN RAES
The Manitoba Co-Operator

Manitobans will still be bringing home the bacon, but doing so will cost a little more than it used to.

Fears of a possible worldwide bacon shortage emerged last week, after Britain's National Pig Association warned of a looming pork shortage, but Manitoba's Pork Council said that won't be a problem here.

"In the United Kingdom, they import about two thirds of their pork from the European Union," explained Andrew Dickson, council manager. "In Canada, we continue to export about a million metric tones of pork worldwide."

Even as fears of a bacon-shortage simmer, a new bacon plant is being built by Maple Leaf Foods in Winnipeg's south end.

"Our bacon supply continues to meet our demand in Canada ... and we have every intention of meeting bacon demand through 2013," said Maple Leaf's director of procurement, Jason Manness.

But he acknowledged the hog industry is facing serious difficulties.

Consumers will now begin to feel that pressure, as bacon and other pork products increase in price.

"There will be a tightening of supplies, and our expectation is that retail prices will increase," said Dickson. "There will be lots of bacon to buy, but at the right price."

It will be more expensive to bring home the bacon next year.
SHANNON VAN RAES/FOR METRO

Corgan and company launch tour at MTS Centre

The Smashing Pumpkins' Billy Corgan performs on stage at the MTS Centre Tuesday night. The frontman and his band launched their North American tour in Winnipeg in support of Oceania, the Pumpkin's latest album. TYLER PEACOCK/METRO WINNIPEG

Mobile news

Qriket

Man vs. bear? Scan the code to see how one woman's NIMBYism evolves into yelling at bears.

Education. Students learn dangers of distracted driving

The dangers of distracted driving were driven home to a group of Winnipeg high school students Tuesday with a few laps around a go-kart track.

Twenty-five Sturgeon Heights Collegiate students took part in CAA Manitoba's third annual Distracted Driving 101 challenge held at Thunder Rapids Fun Park in Headingley Tuesday morning.

Every year organizers give the students a different distraction to experience while hitting speeds of nearly 30 km/h around the course. This year the teens were asked to try to take a call using a hands-free wireless headset and answer a few questions all while trying to avoid obstacles — and each other — on the track.

"While it may be legal to use a bluetooth, it still is a distraction for you," explained Tim Scott, vice-president of CAA Manitoba.

The students each took two trips around the track — once without taking a phone call and again while trying to answer a caller's cognitive questions.

Although 16-year-old Jenni Ford said she doesn't talk on the phone while driving, the experience showed her how important it is to pay attention while behind the wheel.

"I felt a huge difference," said Ford. "I was like, all over the place and people kept passing me when I was talking on the phone, when before I wasn't like that at all."

SHANE GIBSON/METRO WINNIPEG

Sturgeon Heights Collegiate student Jenni Ford, 16, takes a trip around the go-kart track at Thunder Rapids Fun Park Tuesday as part of CAA's annual Distracted Driving 101 challenge. TYLER PEACOCK/METRO WINNIPEG

Criminal negligence

Man charged in salon crash death

Police have charged a 32-year-old man in the death of a woman who was in a Winnipeg hair salon when a car crashed into it.

Kendall Wiebe, who was 27, died from her injuries after the driver of an SUV lost control and slammed into the building last April.

A 25-year-old woman survived. Police say an examination of the vehicle shows it was mechanically sound.

Adebola Shoyoye faces four charges, including criminal negligence causing death and criminal negligence causing bodily harm.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Clean up begins after major Winnipeg industrial fire

Quite an inferno.
The fire was so hot, it burned clean and quick, reducing lingering toxic smoke

Fire investigators pored through the charred, twisted remains of the Speedway International fuel plant Tuesday as a worker recalled seeing a huge ball of fire erupt into the sky — the start of a massive blaze that caused millons of dollars in damage.

Evan Basarowich says no one was in the Speedway International plant Monday afternoon when the fire alarm sounded, because workers were waiting for a shipment of powder used to purify biodiesel.

Basarowich was one of the workers called in when the alarm sounded and was standing nearby when a huge ball of fire shot into the sky.

He says the big explosion was in a methanol tank, and fire crews and CN Rail workers acted quickly to get some nearby tanker cars out of the way.

There's no word yet on what caused the fire.

Basarowich says he and the company's other seven employees may be out of work if the owner chooses not to rebuild.

The fire burned for several hours and forced the evacuation of nearby homes and businesses, but did not result in any injuries. City officials gave the all-clear signal around 12:30 a.m. Tuesday and hundreds of people went home.

Fire platoon chief Ted Kuryluk said that all that remains is the shell of the building and some trucks. He estimated damage at $15 million.

"It's basically totally devastated: a shell of a building, (the) shell of a number of trucks and equipment and some rail cars. The rail cars are still intact," said Kuryluk.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Emergency personnel examine a burned rail car Tuesday morning at the scene of a fire the day before that threw fireballs into the air. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Grass fire forces evacuation of Charleswood homes

Platoon Chief Albert Sigfusson talks to media Tuesday afternoon. A grass fire in west Winnipeg led to an evacuation in Charleswood. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

A stubborn grass fire burning in west Winnipeg Tuesday led to forced evacuations and tested the resources of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service.

Large plumes of smoke were seen over Charleswood as the fire burned in a field from Loudoun Road and McCreary Road between Wilkes Avenue and McGillivray Boulevard.

"We don't have enough man power for relief, so it's been the same crew since eight o'clock this morning," said Platoon Chief Albert Sigfusson at the scene around 2:30 p.m. "We've had to commandeer private equipment … the wind is still high and the threat to homes was extremely high this morning so we've had up to 18 trucks at a time fighting the fire."

Spread thin

"We don't have enough man power for relief, so it's been the same crew since eight o'clock this morning."
Platoon Chief Albert Sigfusson

Grass fires also burned in the area Sunday afternoon, and although crews extinguished them, Sigfusson said high winds caused a flare-up, which lit a hay bale on fire and brought crews back Tuesday morning.

While the evacuations Tuesday were closer to McCreary Road, homeowners along Loudon Road spent the afternoon spraying water on their roofs, surrounding trees and lawns, and getting ready to leave if needed.

"Everything we own is in our garage and our house," said Bob Penner, who watched firefighters battle the fire from his front yard. "So everything we need to do to save it, we're going to put all those efforts forward."

Crews used backpacks of water, brooms and hoses from pumper trucks to attack the fire, and a front-end loader brought enough dirt to build up a small roadway for a smaller version of a pumper truck used especially for forest fires to get close to the blaze.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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Police arrest 7 crew members after Hong Kong boat crash

Relatives of the victims throw paper money, Tuesday, as they pay tribute to the ill-fated people aboard a boat that sank Monday night near Lamma Island, off the coast of Hong Kong Island, killing at least 38 people. VINCENT YU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mourning. Dozens of relatives travelled by boat to pray alongside Taoist priests and toss spirit money into the wind

Police on Tuesday arrested seven crew members from two boats that collided in Hong Kong waters, killing 38 holiday revelers, but offered no theory about how the vessels ran into each other on a clear night in one of the safest and most regulated waterways in Asia.

The Monday night crash was Hong Kong's deadliest accident in more than 15 years, and its worst maritime accident in more than 40. Some relatives of the dead went to the scene off Hong Kong island's southwestern coast to participate in traditional Chinese mourning rituals on Tuesday, while others waited at the morgue for news about loved ones.

Police Commissioner Tsang Wai-hung said six people were detained on suspicion of endangering passengers by operating their craft in an unsafe way. Police later announced a seventh arrest. Tsang said both crews are suspected of having not "exercised the care required of them by law," but he did not elaborate.

The ferry collided with the Lamma IV, which is owned by the Hong Kong Electric Co. utility and was taking more than 100 employees and their families to famed Victoria Harbor to watch a fireworks display in celebration of China's National Day and mid-autumn festival.

The government said 101 people were sent to hospitals, 66 were discharged, and four had serious injuries or were in critical condition.

The ferry was damaged but completed its journey, and some of its passengers were treated for injuries. Local TV later showed its bow chewed up and chunks missing.

Hong Kong and Kowloon (Ferry) Holdings Ltd., the ferry operator, did not return calls seeking comment.

The government said 28 bodies were recovered overnight, and eight more people were declared dead at hospitals. Two bodies found aboard the vessel Tuesday raised the death toll to 38, according to government statements. At least four of those killed were children.

Salvage crews raised the half-submerged Lamma IV using three crane barges.

Victor Li, deputy head of the company that owns Power Assets, said the company would provide emergency payments of 200,000 Hong Kong dollars ($25,380) to the family of each person killed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Context

- Large-scale accidents are rare for Hong Kong, which has one of Asia's most advanced infrastructures and first-rate public services.
- The tragedy will test Hong Kong's new Beijing-installed administration.

Security request in Libya was denied: Congressmen

U.S. diplomats in Libya made repeated requests for increased security for the consulate in Benghazi before it was attacked last month, but they were turned down by officials in Washington, leaders of a Congressional committee said Tuesday.

In a letter to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Reps. Darrell Issa and Jason Chaffetz said their information came from "individuals with direct knowledge of events in Libya."

The two Republicans said the Sept. 11 attack that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans was the latest in a long line of attacks on Western diplomats and officials in Libya in recent months.

Stevens was the first sitting U.S. ambassador to be killed in more than 30 years.

The lawmakers asked Clinton whether the State Department was aware of the previous incidents, whether the level of security that was provided to the U.S. mission met the security threat and how the department responded to requests for more security. The lawmakers plan a hearing of their House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Oct. 10.

The attack came amid protests across the Muslim world over an amateur anti-Islam video produced in the U.S.

The State Department has declined to answer questions about whether extra security was sought by officials in Benghazi ahead of the Sept. 11 attack. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prior to Sept. 11

The lawmakers' letter listed a dozen incidents they said were indications of deteriorating security.

- Weeks before the attacks, the Libyan guards at the consulate were warned by family members to quit their jobs because there were rumours of an impending attack.

Security forces stand guard as people turn in weapons in Benghazi, Libya, Sept. 29 in response to a call from the military. IBRAHIM ALAGURI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Farmer eaten by his hogs

Mysterious death.
Only dentures and body pieces found as authorities investigate several possible scenarios

This June photo shows hogs at a farm in Buckhart, Ill. An Oregon farmer was eaten by his swine, investigators say. M. SPENCER GREEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Authorities are investigating how a U.S. farmer was eaten by his hogs.

Terry Vance Garner, 69, never returned after he set out to feed his animals last Wednesday on his Oregon farm, the Coos County district attorney said Monday.

A family member found Garner's dentures and pieces of his body in the hog enclosure several hours later, but most of his remains had been consumed, district attorney Paul Frasier said. Several of the hogs weighed 700 pounds or more.

It's possible Garner had a medical emergency, such as a heart attack, or was knocked over by the animals, then killed and eaten, Frasier said, adding that at least one hog had previously bitten Garner.

The possibility of foul play is being investigated as well.

"For all we know, it was a horrific accident, but it's so doggone weird that we have to look at all possibilities," Frasier told The Register-Guard newspaper.

A pathologist was unable to identify a cause or manner of death, the newspaper reported. The remains will be examined by a forensic anthropologist at the University of Oregon.

Terry Garner was "a good-hearted guy" who cared for several huge adult sows and a boar named Teddy, said his brother, Michael Garner, 75, of Myrtle Point.

"Those animals were his life," Michael Garner said. "He had all kinds of birds and turkeys that ran all over the place. Everybody knew him."

Domestic hogs are not typically known to be as aggressive as their feral cousins, but "there is some degree of danger associated with any animal," John Killefer, who heads the Animal and Rangeland Sciences Department at Oregon State University in Corvallis, told the newspaper.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dog days

Dog survives ride in sweltering heat

A dog has survived a 177-kilometre ride on the hot engine of a truck during a California heat wave. When Jaime Magalna, 52, noticed fur above his left front tire, he opened the hood to find a 25-pound dog atop the engine. The hunt is on for the dog's owner.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Frostbitten

Veteran seeks $10M after penis amputation

A U.S. Army veteran is seeking $10 million from the federal government, saying a nurse repeatedly put ice packs on his penis after surgery, causing frostbite and gangrene, and ultimately leading to the organ's partial amputation.

Michael D. Nash sued the federal government in U.S. District Court in Kentucky on Tuesday for what he calls medical malpractice.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dog trapped under car survives a 17-km ruff ride

Animal welfare authorities in Rhode Island say a dog survived a 17-kilometre ride — at speeds of up to 80 kilometres per hour — after it was hit by a car and became wedged under its front grill. East Providence Animal Control supervisor William Muggle says the dog ran in front of the car in Massachusetts on Sept. 20. The driver slammed on the brakes, but didn't see the dog and continued driving. Muggle tells the Taunton Daily Gazette that another motorist finally pointed out the dog.

EAST PROVIDENCE ANIMAL CONTROL CENTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hormonal Breakouts?
Not Just a Teenage Problem!

Hormonal breakouts, such as acne that is marked by pimples, whiteheads, blackheads and cysts affect many teenagers today. But teenagers are not the only ones; acne can strike adults too - more than half of all adult women and about a quarter of adult men.

As the largest organ in the body, the skin is one of the best indicators of how healthy we are on the inside. Acne can have many underlying causes including: poor digestion and dietary intake (vitamin and mineral deficiencies), food allergies, hormonal imbalances, and stress.

Many women will typically see hormonal breakouts during their menstrual cycle due to hormonal fluctuations. Estrogen dominance due to hormone replacement therapy, the birth control pill, xenoestrogens from the environment (BPA, phthalates, parabens) or a sluggish liver can also contribute to hormonal breakouts.

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Vancouver man pleads guilty to bestiality

No jail time. The 38-year-old man has been an outspoken advocate for decriminalization

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
Metro in Vancouver

A Vancouver man has avoided jail time after pleading guilty Tuesday to a bestiality charge for having sex with his two dogs.

Brian Cutteridge, 38, was handed a suspended sentence and three years probation.

The former veterinary office worker is to provide a list of all animals he owns, to allow the B.C. SPCA to come to his home for monthly inspections. Hey may not own, possess or care for any female dogs.

Brian Cutteridge and one of his dogs. He pleaded guilty to a single charge of bestiality on Tuesday. FACEBOOK

The offence relates to multiple incidents of sexual activity involving two female dogs, a Rottweiler and a golden retriever, from 1998 to 2005.

"We're definitely pleased that he pled guilty because he has been outspoken in his support of decriminalizing bestiality," said Marcie Moriarty, head of the B.C. SPCA's cruelty investigations department.

But Moriarty feels that the sentence is a "little light."

Cutteridge was arrested in July 2010 after the B.C. SPCA and RCMP searched his home where they found and seized video of Cutteridge engaging in sexual acts with two dogs that have since died from unrelated causes.

Having a whale of a time

Olympic College art students Justine McNeal, left, and Max Greene, right, weave plastic bags into a mesh frame to create an 18-foot baby grey whale on Monday. The Whale Project opens at the Washington State school on Thursday and runs the entire month of October. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Road-rage cabbie who hit cyclist jailed 2 years

A judge sentenced a former Toronto cab driver Tuesday to two years less a day in jail for mangling the leg of a cyclist during a late-night road rage dispute.

Earlier this year, Justice John McMahon found Sultan Ahmed showed a "wanton or reckless disregard" for the safety and life of the cyclist as he convicted him of criminal negligence causing bodily harm.

The Ontario Superior Court judge also found Ahmed guilty of failing to remain at an accident after hitting cyclist Krzysztof (Chris) Kasztelewicz as Kasztelewicz stood beside his bike, which was leaning against a lamp pole.

But the judge found he had a reasonable doubt that the cabbie intended to deliberately hit the cyclist rather than just his bike, so acquitted him of the more serious charges of aggravated assault and assault with a weapon — his taxi.

Ahmed had already pleaded guilty to one count of attempt to obstruct justice by going to a car wash 13 minutes after hitting Kasztelewicz to clean the blood off the cab.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police arrest 'Internet Black Widow'

Attempted murder charge. Cape Breton woman arrested after her husband suddenly became ill; previous charges include theft and manslaughter

Police in Cape Breton have charged a 77-year-old woman infamously known as the "Internet Black Widow" with attempted murder after her husband suddenly became ill.

Melissa Ann Weeks of New Glasgow, N.S., is also charged with administering a noxious thing.

Investigators say the accused's 75-year-old husband was taken to hospital in Sydney, N.S., on the weekend after falling ill at an inn.

They arrested a woman following an investigation into the health of the New Glasgow man who police say has since been treated and released. Weeks is due in Sydney provincial court later Wednesday.

Weeks was sentenced in 2005 to five years in prison on seven counts of theft from a man in Florida she had met online.

Investigators in that case said she stole about $20,000 US from Alexander Strategos.

In 2001, she was convicted of manslaughter in the death of her husband, Gordon Stewart, who she had drugged and run over twice with a car in 1991 outside Halifax.

She served two years of a six-year sentence for that crime. THE CANADIAN PRESS

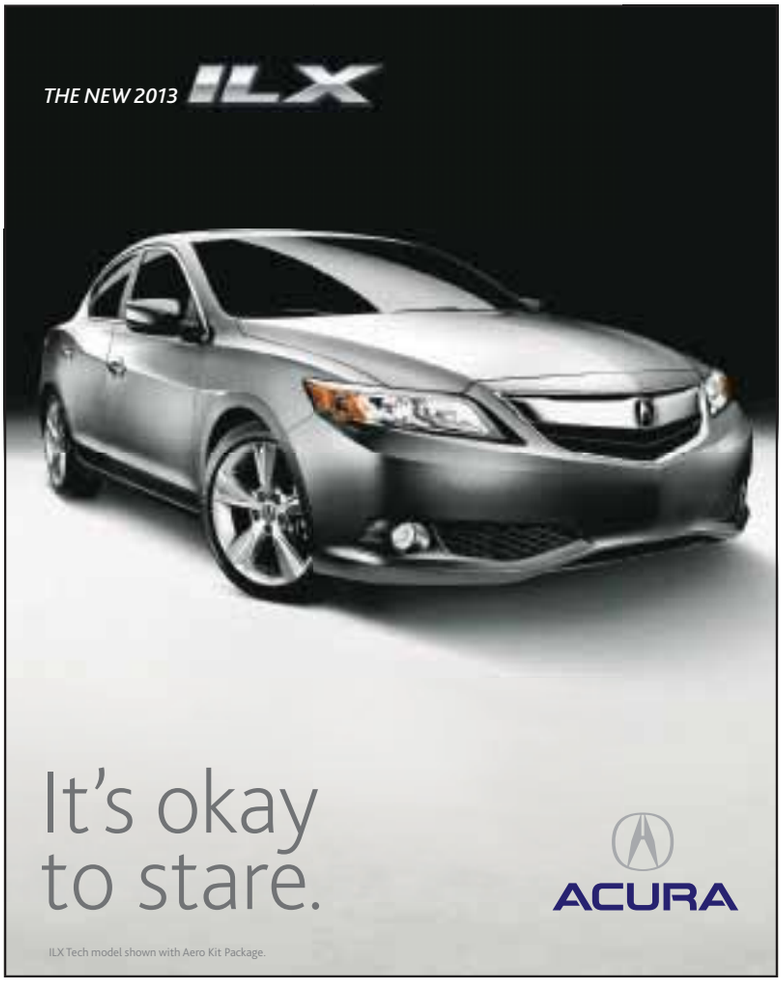
The incident

- Cheryl Chambers, the operator of a bed-and-breakfast in North Sydney, said a couple named Fred and Millie Weeks checked in early Friday morning.
- Chambers said on Saturday morning, Millie came downstairs alone and said her husband wasn't well. She said paramedics later arrived and took her husband to a hospital.

Melissa Ann Weeks leaves a Cape Breton regional police vehicle escorted by Const. Erin Donovan for a court appearance at the Sydney Justice Centre in Nova Scotia Tuesday. VAUGHAN MERCHANT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rallying for peace

An Indian man and children dressed as Mahatma Gandhi wait for the start of a rally against violence to mark the anniversary of Gandhi's birth in Ahmadabad, India, Tuesday. AJIT SOLANKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gay teens

Group files suit to block law that bans conversion therapy

A Christian legal group has filed a lawsuit to overturn a first-of-its-kind California law that prohibits licensed mental-health professionals from practising therapies aimed at making gay and lesbian teenagers straight.

The Sacramento Pacific Legal Institute is challenging the law signed Saturday by Gov. Jerry Brown. The lawsuit was filed late Monday in U.S. District Court. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alleged gang rape

Investigation involving former IMF official dropped

A prosecutor in France says officials have dropped a preliminary investigation into allegations of rape in a Washington, D.C., hotel by former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

State prosecutor Frederic Fevre said Tuesday that the supposed victim, an escort girl, went back on her original account and now says no rape was involved. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mall collapse

Families of Elliot Lake victims claim negligence in lawsuit

Relatives of two women killed when a rooftop garage collapsed in Elliot Lake, Ont., in June are alleging the provincial government and mall owner were negligent in lawsuits that claim complaints about the structure were ignored.

The parallel suits, which also name the city and engineers who said the Algo Centre Mall was safe, seek several million dollars in damages for relatives of Doloris Perizzolo and Lucie Aylwin. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pope's butler says he's innocent of theft

Pope Benedict XVI's one-time butler declared Tuesday he was innocent of a charge of aggravated theft of the Pope's private correspondence, but acknowledged he photocopied the papers and said he feels guilty that he betrayed the trust of the pontiff he loves like a father.

Paolo Gabriele took the stand Tuesday in a Vatican courtroom to defend himself against accusations of his role in one of the most damaging scandals of Benedict's pontificate.

Prosecutors say Gabriele stole the Pope's letters and documents alleging power struggles and corruption inside the Vatican and leaked them to a journalist in an unprecedented papal security breach.

Gabriele faces four years in prison if he is found guilty, although most Vatican watchers expect he will receive a papal pardon if he is convicted.

During Tuesday's hearing, Gabriele's attorney complained that her client spent his first 20 days in Vatican detention in a room so small he couldn't stretch his arms out and with lights kept on 24 hours a day.

Vatican police swiftly defended their treatment of Gabriele, but the Vatican prosecutor opened an investigation regardless.

Quoted

"I declare myself innocent concerning the charge of aggravated theft. I feel guilty of having betrayed the trust of the Holy Father, whom I love as a son would."

Paolo Gabriele, on stealing Pope Benedict XVI's private letters

Prosecutors have said Gabriele, 46, has confessed to leaking copies of the documents to Italian journalist Gianluigi Nuzzi, because he wanted to expose the "evil and corruption" in the church.

They quoted him as saying in a June 5 interrogation that even though he knew taking the documents was wrong, he felt inspired by the Holy Spirit "to bring the church back on the right track." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paolo Gabriele L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A kiss to build a dream on? Justin Trudeau and wife Sophie Grégoire after he announced he's running for the leadership of the federal Liberal party. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

He's their man: A Montreal crowd welcomes Justin and Sophie Tuesday night. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

That 'secret' is out: Justin wants to be Liberal leader

A new Trudeau era?

'Rock star' candidate tells crowd he's determined to build 'a better life, a better Canada'

Justin Trudeau is off and running.

He revealed the worst-kept secret in Canadian politics on Tuesday — he's in the federal Liberal leadership race.

"I am running because I believe this country wants and needs new leadership," he told a Montreal crowd.

But he faces a double-edged challenge:

He's determined to breathe new life into a party he said has lost touch with middle-class Canadians.

Even harder, he must confront those critics who say he's just a pretty face with a famous last name.

Trudeau told a crowd peppered with Liberal luminaries that he has a vision for Canada's future "grounded not in the politics of envy or mistrust." That vision, he declared, "understands, despite all the blessings beneath our feet, that our greatest strength is above ground, in our people.

"All Canadians, pulling together, determined to build a better life, a better Canada."

But as the middle class in China, India, South Korea and Brazil enjoys increasing prosperity, Canadians are experiencing the opposite, he said — stalled income levels, escalating costs and debt.

"What's the response from the NDP? To sow regional resentment and blame the successful.

"The Conservative answer? Privilege one sector over others and promise that wealth will trickle down, eventually."

Both are "tidy ideological answers," he said. "The only thing they have in common is that they are both, equally, wrong."

On Wednesday, Trudeau embarks on a cross-Canada tour designed to prove he's more than just his famous father's telegenic offspring.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I think Justin has a lot to offer the country."

Gerard Kennedy, who himself is still pondering whether he'll take a second run at becoming federal Liberal leader.

The man

Following in his dad's footsteps

Justin Trudeau has been in the public eye since he was born on Christmas Day, 1971.

As a child, he travelled the country and the world with his famous father, then prime minister.

He was a school teacher before jumping into politics in 2008.

He eschewed offers to run in Montreal's Outremont riding — now held by NDP Leader Tom Mulcair — choosing instead to fight a contested nomination in Papineau, once a Bloc Québécois stronghold and among the poorest ridings in the country.

He defeated a star Bloquiste in 2008 and bucked the NDP tide that swept Quebec in 2011.

In Liberal circles, he is an undisputed rock star.

He boasts more than 150,000 followers on Twitter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steven Page reveals the barenaked bipolar facts

GRAHAM LANKTREE
Metro in Ottawa

Steven Page, former frontman of The Barenaked Ladies, shared his struggles with bipolar disorder and depression Tuesday.

He was helping to launch two new mental-health tools at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

"In 2007 when I was arrested for drug possession … it was painful to pick up a national newspaper and see my mug shot," Page said.

Steven Page says having good friends is a key to coping. JAMIE SABAU/GETTY IMAGES

"I hadn't taken care of my inner struggles."

Page spoke at the launch of Starting the Conversation and iCopeU, two tools the college has created to help students and staff cope with mental-health issues.

iCopeU uses interactive games to teach students how to identify a panic attack and to reach out to friends they think may be suicidal.

Starting the Conversation is an online tool for staff to help identify students who may be suffering.

Being an artist makes it easier for him to talk about his struggles, Page said. "People in the business world can't come out and talk about it."

Women disappointed

Court's new man is a gender jolt

Justice Richard Wagner of the Quebec Court of Appeal was lauded Tuesday as a worthy addition to the Supreme Court of Canada, with one reservation in some quarters — he's not a woman.

Wagner's appointment Tuesday reduced to three the number of women on the nine-member court.

NDP justice critic Francoise Boivin was disappointed a woman was not tapped. And Queen's University law professor Kathleen Lahey said: "This is the 21st century."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meter misery. No breaks for drivers … and no brakes on parking costs

Gas prices aren't the only thing putting a squeeze on drivers' finances.

A new survey suggests Canadian drivers are pumping more cash into parking meters this year as parking rates continue to climb in major cities.

The Colliers International annual parking survey says the average median rate for a monthly unreserved spot is now $241.72 per month, up from $235.33 in 2011.

Calgary is Canada's most expensive city to park in for the second year in a row, with the average parking rate rising two per cent to $456.75.

That rate is second in North America only to parking in New York City.

Montreal, Toronto and Edmonton are also in the top 10 most expensive cities for parking in North America.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

2.7%

How much the average median rate for a monthly unreserved parking spot grew over the past year.

Even from behind.

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ACURA

ILX Tech model shown with Aero Kit Package.

E. coli cases. Saskatchewan checks possible link to recall

Saskatchewan is reporting a spike in E. coli cases but is waiting for lab tests before linking them to the massive beef recall from an Alberta plant.

The Ministry of Health announced Tuesday there were 13 reported cases of E. coli infection in the province last month. The usual number for September is between zero and four. "Public health authorities are investigating these cases and conducting tests to determine whether they are linked to the recall," reads a government release. "Laboratory results are expected within the next few days."

Health officials in Alberta on Tuesday confirmed two new cases, bringing the province's total to 10. Five of these cases have been linked to steaks that were processed at the XL Foods Inc. plant in southern Alberta.

Late Monday, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency added dozens of additional products to the recall. The entire list can be found at inspection.gc.ca.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Most valuable brands

BlackBerry sinks to No. 93 in global brand ranking

The BlackBerry brand that once dominated the smartphone landscape has plummeted nearly to the bottom of the latest ranking of global brands by an international consultancy. Interbrand said that Research In Motion's BlackBerry is now 93rd on its list of 100 most valuable global brands, down from 56th in 2011.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 101.60¢ (-0.16¢)

TSX 12,391.23 (+21.04)

OIL $91.89 US (-$0.59)

GOLD $1,775.60 US (-$7.70)

Natural gas: $3.52 (+0.04¢)
Dow Jones: 13,482.36 (-32.75)

Fish-tracking website looks to expand beyond Canada

Sustainability. Tracing service lets consumers find out who caught their dinner and how

An employee holds fish tags at Ecotrust Canada in downtown Vancouver on Friday. A Canadian website that allows consumers to trace the fish they buy back to the people who caught them is preparing for a larger, global presence.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Developers of a small Canadian website that has allowed consumers to trace hundreds of thousands of fish back to those who caught them are gearing up for a global presence.

Ecotrust Canada is in talks with East Coast mussel farmers and West Coast Dungeness crab fishermen to add their products to the online traceability program offered by thisfish.info, says Tasha Sutcliffe, vice-president of the non-profit organization and director of its fisheries program.

Sutcliffe said her organization has also met with interested non-governmental organizations, fishermen and restaurants in Australia and has received inquiries from Portugal, Costa Rica and the U.S.

Already, the website, which launched in 2010, allows consumers to trace 16 different fisheries back to hundreds of Canadian fishermen employed on both coasts, she says.

"With the seafood industry, you know, some people care very much about the sustainability of their catch," she said. "They want to know that it's caught from a sustainable fishery, how it's caught, perhaps even if they're interested enough ... in the stock status."

The program requires the participation of every agency in the distribution chain, from the fishermen to the consumer. Fishermen assign a code to their catch and upload that information to the website, including details about where, when and how the fish were caught.

The code then follows the fish as they move through the processing and distribution chain. To learn about their fish, consumers just enter the code into the website. So far, consumers have traced more than 362,500 fish. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"There's more and more requirements by consumers to know exactly where their fish comes from.... They really want to know what kind of fishery it is."

Dan Edwards, a commercial fisherman from Ucluelet, B.C., who has been involved in the Thisfish program since 2007.

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HAIL STORM JUSTIN TRUDEAU? WIND CHILL GARY BETTMAN?

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Winter is coming.

And that's not just the tag line for Season 3 of Game of Thrones.

It's really coming, in a meteorological, as well as mythological sense.

Only now, winter will never be the same. In the U.S., The Weather Channel (TWC) has unilaterally declared it will start naming winter storms the way the National Hurricane Center names tropical storms.

What's in a storm name?

Instead of alternating male names with female names, TWC will name winter storms after mythological figures, starting with Athena, Brutus and Caesar. Too bad it's alphabetical, because if Brutus could follow Caesar, weather nerds could amuse themselves by arching their eyebrows and declaring "Et tu, Brute" ad nauseam. (Excuse the Latin blizzard).

"... I'm actually looking forward to the change in seasons for the first time since a snow day actually meant I could stay home and watch cartoons."

This is a real marketing breakthrough for The Weather Channel, which in a single stroke has branded winter as a TWC event. As it has a 76 per cent share of the weather nerd market, everyone else will have to follow TWC's lead, which is annoying competitor Accuweather. "We are concerned," Accuweather commented, "about the lack of strict criteria with naming winter storms." They are not amused.

Well, I guess. They just lost winter. But if I were Accuweather, I wouldn't waste any more time being a sore loser and get right on spring and fall. Think of the possibilities: Ice Jam Snoop Lion, Windstorm Rex Murphy, First Frost (Name of local Homecoming Queen goes here).

Now that TWC has turned winter weather into a name-calling event, I'm actually looking forward to the change in seasons for the first time since a snow day actually meant I could stay home and watch cartoons.

I could probably still stay home and watch cartoons and no one would care. But I would. I would care.

But people with critical jobs, such as TV weather personalities, will now be able to phone in, blame the wrath of Khan or a spell cast by Gandalf, and turn over and go back to sleep.

As far as I can tell, anything goes on the mythology front. Italian stallions like Rocky take their place next to Greek gods Athena and Zeus, although it would be better if Rocky referred to Rocket J. Squirrel (speaking of the cartoons of my misspent youth) which means we could look forward to Winter Storm Bullwinkle, but that's almost too much to hope for. I can only remind the people at TWC that Rocky and Bullwinkle did come from Frostbite Falls, Minnesota. Winter lives there for sure.

The best part is that we can finally play along here in Canada. Blizzards are as commonplace as hurricanes are scarce north of the 49th. We could have a different fun weather event almost every day, although there's a real danger we'll hit Zeus in mid-February, where in parts of this godforsaken tundra, winter's just getting started.

In that case, we can always tap into our local mythology and name the next one Winter Storm Sidney Crosby? Because apart from winter, he represents the other thing we're good at.

Whaddya gonna call that one, son? NATHAN DENETTE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Time for a swim or a quick bite?

KATHLEEN REEDER/SOLENT

Animal instincts

Tiger hunts down handler into pool

This brave zookeeper took a real leap of faith ... into a swimming pool with a formidable tiger.

Animal handler Jeff Harwell, 30, dove into the water with a 204-kilogram Bengal tiger named Akasha in close pursuit.

The dynamic duo are the main event of a stunt show at Arizona's Out of Africa Wildlife Park.

METRO

Animal handler's view

"We're just playing, having a good time. All I see is her eyes and how intense they are, and she's trying to figure out what move I'm going to make that will make her spring."

Jeff Harwell

Reaction to photo

Critic condemns 'shocking' image

But this stunt is not without its critics.

"It's truly shocking," Adam Roberts, executive vice-president of animal rights group Born Free USA, told Metro.

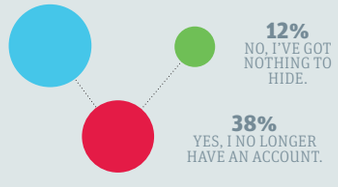
"It sends out a terrible message, that wild animals can be kept in close proximity with humans." He added: "This could easily end up in tragedy, with someone getting killed by a tiger." METRO

Jeff Harwell with Akasha.
CONTRIBUTED

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Are you concerned about your privacy on Facebook?


50%
SOMEWHAT. I'M VERY CAREFUL WHAT I POST, EVEN IN PRIVATE MESSAGES.
12%
NO, I'VE GOT NOTHING TO HIDE.
38%
YES, I NO LONGER HAVE AN ACCOUNT.

Twitter

@GIVRband: Toto....I don't think we're in kansas anymore....damn #Winnipeg. U windy as hell today !!!!

@accordingtomio: I was going to rake the leaves this week, but the wind blew them all away. Score one for laziness! #Winnipeg

@tristanfj: More fires in #Winnipeg... this time a major grass fire near Charleswood. Can't we get a break?

@jaelynrose: working on a question for forever and then finally finding the answer is one of the most satisfying feelings.

@Shy_babby: Really? Everybody is worried about the news spelling Winnipeg wrong?? There's s--t blowing up and kids starting fires.

metro

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SCENE 2

Liam Neeson gets big bucks these days with roles like in Taken 2, but prior to killing bad guys, he showed a softer side. HANDOUT

Neeson has a particular set of skills that aren't violent

Taken 2. Before he was fighting wolves and hunting bad guys, the Irish actor played a number of roles that showcased his nice-guy personality

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

In this weekend's Taken 2, Liam Neeson tells his daughter that he will do, "what I do best," which, apparently, is wallop bad guys, grimace and leave a trail of destruction a mile wide. He plays a retired CIA agent with a "particular set of skills" who will do anything to protect his family.

Neeson's habit of paying the rent with chest-beaters like Battleship, Unknown and The A-Team led one macho movie fan to post on Facebook some conclusions.

"After watching the movie The Grey, I can only come to the (very logical) conclusion that Liam Neeson should be King of the Earth. Who's better than Liam Neeson? Nobody. That's who. Nobody."

His burly build and steely glare have made the 60-year-old an action star.

"Believe it or not, I have even had Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis calling my agent saying, 'How do I get these scripts?,'" he said.

Quote

There was a time when a kinder, gentler (Liam) Neeson ruled the screen.

But there was a time when a kinder, gentler Neeson ruled the screen.

His first film, 1977s Pilgrim's Progress, was so low budget he played several characters. He's credited as the Evangelist, a main character in John Bunyan's Christian allegory, but can also be seen subbing in as the crucified Jesus Christ.

It was another supporting role in a movie called Shining Through that led to his breakthrough. In it he plays a Nazi party official opposite Michael Douglas. The performance so impressed Steven Spielberg he cast Neeson as Oskar Schindler in Schindler's List, which turned him into an Oscar-nominated star.

He parlayed that fame into starring roles in period pieces like Rob Roy, Michael Collins (at the age of 43 Neeson was 12 years older than the real-life Michael Collins when he died) and Les Misérables. Then comedies Breakfast on Pluto and High Spirits also showcased his more amiable side.

High on the list of his mild-mannered roles are two films with Laura Linney. He's worked with her so often on stage and in the movies they joke they feel like "an old married couple." They're part of the ensemble cast of Love Actually and play husband and wife in Kinsey, about America's leading sexologist Alfred Kinsey.

Neeson, as we can see, can portray almost anything on screen, but even he was surprised by the success of Taken, his first action hit.

"I was a tiny bit embarrassed by it, but then people started sending me action scripts."

Beasts deemed unfit for SAG awards

Indie film. Sundance winner ineligible after SAG rules they did not meet their financial standards

The independent-film hit Beasts of the Southern Wild will be ineligible for the Screen Actors Guild Awards because it was not made under provisions of the union's contracts, guild officials said Monday.

The producers have until Oct. 25 to bring the film into guild compliance to become eligible for the awards, though that likely would mean paying the actors more money.A spokesman for Fox Searchlight, which released the film domestically, said the company would not try to bring Beasts in line with SAG contract rules to qualify for the awards.

"We're baffled at the fact that the producers of Beasts of the Southern Wild failed to sign a SAG agreement as every other important film released this year did," said guild spokeswoman Pamela Greenwalt in a statement. "We would love for the performers in this film to compete for a SAG Award. Celebrating such performances is what we're all about."

Director Benh Zeitlin cast locals in his film set in rural Louisiana, including his two stars, first-time actors Quvenzhane Wallis as a six-year-old wild child, and Dwight Henry as her father.

Beasts won top honours at the Sundance Film Festival, so sitting out the Jan. 27 SAG Awards will not necessarily hurt its Academy Awards prospects. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quvenzhane Wallis portrays Hushpuppy in Beasts of the Southern Wild.
JESS PINKHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Qriket

Norah O'Donnell tries to make the most of her mornings on CBS

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Tom Cruise

Special Scientology treatment for Cruise

Some members of the Church of Scientology are bristling at the special treatment they believe Tom Cruise is receiving in the wake of his split from Katie Holmes, according to Radar Online. "They have bent the rules or Tom. If Tom was any other Scientologist — including lesser celebrities — he would not be allowed to continue seeing and maintaining communication with Katie or Suri," former Celebrity Center president Nancy Many tells the website. "When every other person that I have known of leaves Scientology, which Katie did without speaking of it directly, they are instantly shunned."

Twitter

@BetteMidler
Oops, MIA again, upstate harvesting KALE KALE KALE!!! It's like a WEED!! How many chips can you eat?? And let's not discuss the peppers!

@EllenBarkin
Nice to see responses from Christians whose political beliefs might be different from my own. Glad your out there.

@SandraBernhard
a little reflection does a girl good. back on the chain gang.

The Word

Kardashian and Lopez to be hosts of X Factor

Ryan Seacrest is getting a little competition as host of a reality TV singing show: It was kind of announced yesterday (through TMZ; no official announcement has been made as of press time) that Khloe Kardashian and Mario Lopez will be the new co-hosts of The X Factor.

Earlier reports had Kardashian as the sole host but because of her contract with E!, there was a lot of back-and-forth; they kept Lopez on the sidelines as a back-up. But now it looks like they will share the duties together.

Good on Kardashian for distancing herself from the Kardashian cabal (heads up: Don't be surprised if you see Kardashian Kabal being used as the name of their new Home line for Sears) but Mario Lopez? How does this guy continue to have a showbiz career when Kelly Kapowski does not?

Curry back on Today?
Meanwhile, over at The Today Show, producers are doing a huge mea culpa about firing co-anchor Ann Curry and doing the unthinkable: they are going to have her back on the show on a routine basis in order to keep the morning show's ratings from sliding any further.

Will Kopelman and Drew Barrymore ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Suck it up: Tasty baby names are still in vogue

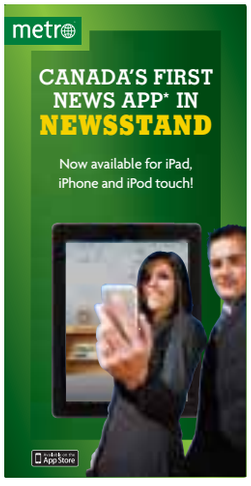
Drew Barrymore is a new mom, giving birth to baby girl Olive last week, according to a statement by her reps.

"We are proud to announce the birth of our daughter, Olive Barrymore Kopelman, born Sept. 26, healthy, happy and welcomed by the whole family," The statement reads. "Thank you for respecting our privacy during this most special time in our lives." This is the first child for Barrymore and husband Will Kopelman, who tied the knot in June.

Don't worry, Robert. You're still the sexiest man alive

Maybe this will help take his mind off the whole Kristen Stewart cheating scandal thing: Twilight star Robert Pattinson has been named the Sexiest Man Alive by Glamour U.K. for the fourth year in a row. The Brit-heavy list awarded Avengers star Tom Hiddleston the No. 2 spot, while Johnny Depp, Michael Fassbender and Sherlock star Benedict Cumberbatch rounded out the top five.

Robert Pattinson



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LIFE 3

On the web

Qriket

New Travel Channel show goes behind the scenes at Miami International Airport

Looking for a place to unwind? Lonely Planet host Dominic Bonuccelli shares his favourite relaxation spots. Watch the new Lonely Planet series premiering Thursday at 10 p.m. ET/PT on Travel + Escape.

DOMINIC BONUCCELLI
life@metronews.ca

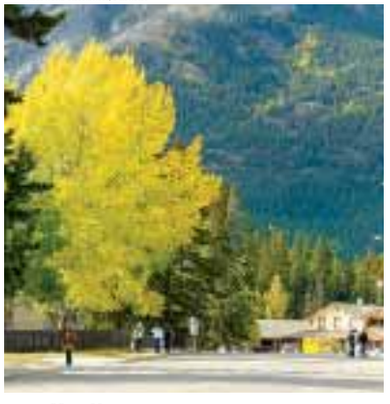
5 Places to bust the stress

SHAYAN/FLICKR

Death Valley, California

Sure, post-apocalyptic wastelands aren't everyone's cup of tea, but Death Valley gets my vote for the most mythic landscape in North America. It's the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere, full of Saharan sand dunes, endless fields of jagged salt crystal formations (the Devil's Golf Course), and vistas brooding enough for the U2 Joshua Tree album cover. Try meditating under the thick veil of silence, so intense you can hear the very hum of existence itself.

SATORU KIKUCHI/FLICKR



Banff, Alberta

Everyone knows Banff National Park has some of the best skiing and snowboarding, but I recommend hitting Lake Louise and the surrounding area in the summer blast. The Lake is blue, the colour of a child's imagination and home to the opulent Fairmont Chateau for those who relish the finer things. Summer allows you to rent a mountain bike and shred down miles of amazing alpine terrain with wild-flowers and brain-melting views teeming with wildlife. Hit the Banff Upper Hot Springs on the way home to replenish your body.

The Big Isle of Hawaii

You may have a more Robinson Crusoe experience on one of the more remote islands like Molokai or Lanai, but the big island of Hawaii will always be one of my favourite places on the planet. It hovers over a hole in the Earth's crust spouting magma, which makes it the youngest island and the one where you can (depending on the whimsy of Pele) watch lava drop into the ocean in pink-hazed fury under a full moon. If you want the pomp of a four-star experience you can linger on the dry side at the golf courses in Kailua-Kona, but I prefer the solace of the northern ranchlands near Waimea and the wetter, more serene eastern side amid main-street towns like Honoka'a.

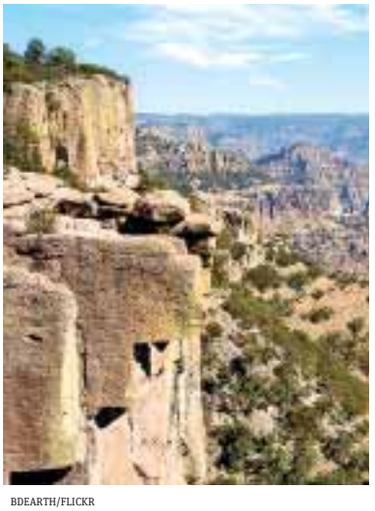
Cuba

Run to Cuba. Run there before the U.S. blockade ends and everything changes. Not that it shouldn't: the blockade is an anachronistic holdover from the Cold War that should go the way of the Dodo. But for now, Cuba remains frozen in 1958. Every pull-handle fridge, every '56 thunderbird with white-walled tires serving as a part-time taxi, every scrap of machinery heralds from the 1950s. The mojitos are the best you'll taste on the planet, swizzled with a stick of pure sugar cane, and you sip them while watching grandma and grandpa salsa dance on a street corner to live music at midnight. Run to Cuba, my friend.

COLROS/FLICKR

Copper Canyon, Sierra Madres, Mexico

I live just north of the Mexican border in Tucson, and I didn't even discover the Copper Canyon until three years ago. Shame on me. The drug war hasn't helped tourism much, but in reality tourists are very rarely targeted, and the adventurous travellers that venture in will be rewarded with a rustic wild-west train experience that crosses the Grand Canyon of Mexico on a daylong trip either direction between Los Mochis and Chihuahua. The Sierra Madres are breathtakingly gorgeous, and home to the Tarahumara Indians, the best long distance runners in the world and one of the most traditional and remote tribes in Mexico; a glimpse of their Easter celebration is an otherworldly experience.



BDEARTH/FLICKR

Slow down and enjoy the view on a train ride through the wilds

Jasper. A 1,000-kilometre journey features stops in ski towns, boating spots and even some great shopping

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN
Darren Parkman
travel@metronews.ca

In an era where you can jump on a jet and be halfway around the world in half a day, it's a refreshing change to wind back the clock and do some travelling old-school style.

Via Rail offers an incredibly scenic, relaxing train journey from the northern B.C. coast to Jasper, Alta., but don't expect to get anywhere fast.

This is how they moved in style back in the day, with great stretches of wilderness, lakes and rivers, punctuated by little railway towns.

I have to admit the hum of the train lulled me into more than one nap along the 1,000-kilometre route, but there is no shortage of interesting stops along the way either.

Towns like Terrace, Smithers and McBride are rich in native culture, and have that small-town feel you can't find anywhere else. I even found myself browsing through an impromptu town flea market during a whistle stop in Smithers.

The train itself is a bit dated, with a lounge car complete with 30-year-old magazines, and '70s-style decor. Overall though, touring class offers great dome cars to enjoy the view of the stunning Rocky Mountains at a relaxed pace.

After an overnight stop in bustling Prince George, we were soon crossing the Alberta border, where passengers delighted in spotting a couple of lazy grizzly bears lounging in a track-side field.

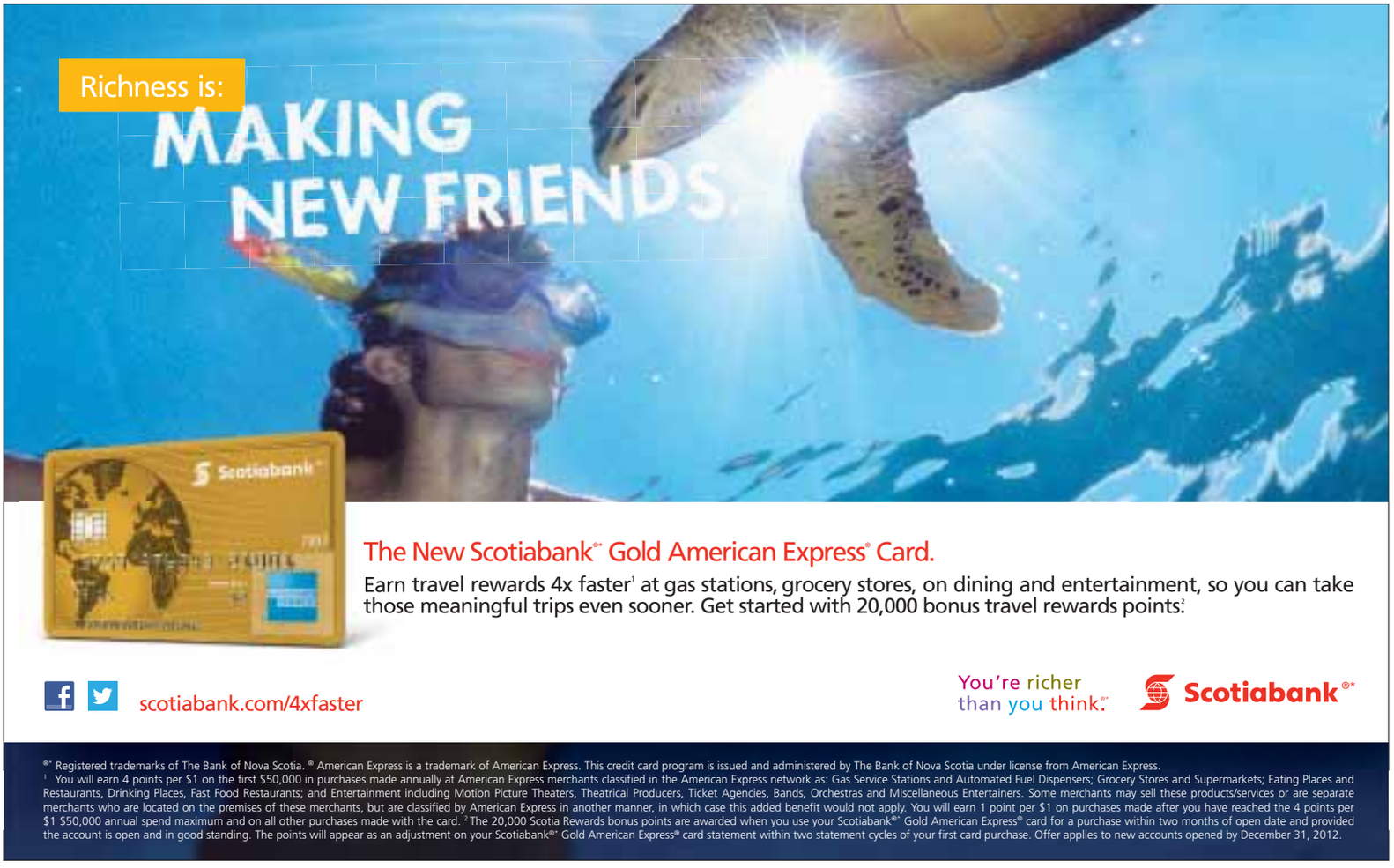
Finally, the train chugged into peaceful Jasper, where the scenery is equally spectacular.

You couldn't find a better setting to wrap up a long rail ride. At the stunning Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, I found myself sipping a nightcap as a wild herd of giant elk slowly wandered the property, grazing just a few feet away from hotel guests.

Other cool things to do ...

- **Jetboating in Terrace.** Take a high-speed jet boat tour on the Skeena river. There's also great salmon fishing from spring through fall.
- **Ski Hundons Bay Mountain in Smithers.** Three great lifts with runs for the novice to the expert. Located just 20 minutes from downtown.

All aboard! Take the Via train through the Rockies for a wild time. DARREN PARKMAN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[1] You will earn 4 points per $1 on the first $50,000 in purchases made annually at American Express merchants classified in the American Express network as: Gas Service Stations and Automated Fuel Dispensers; Grocery Stores and Supermarkets; Eating Places and Restaurants, Drinking Places, Fast Food Restaurants; and Entertainment including Motion Picture Theaters, Theatrical Producers, Ticket Agencies, Bands, Orchestras and Miscellaneous Entertainers. Some merchants may sell these products/services or are separate merchants who are located on the premises of these merchants, but are classified by American Express in another manner, in which case this added benefit would not apply. You will earn 1 point per $1 on purchases made after you have reached the 4 points per $1 $50,000 annual spend maximum and on all other purchases made with the card. [2] The 20,000 Scotia Rewards bonus points are awarded when you use your Scotiabank®* Gold American Express® card for a purchase within two months of open date and provided the account is open and in good standing. The points will appear as an adjustment on your Scotiabank®* Gold American Express® card statement within two statement cycles of your first card purchase. Offer applies to new accounts opened by December 31, 2012.

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Make sure to take the time to relax with your family this Thanksgiving long weekend and create your own treasured memories. ALTRENDO IMAGES/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

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Cornucopia of activities

LEE ROMAN
For Metro

There's really no other holiday like Thanksgiving — the day that's synonymous with feasting on turkey, mashed potatoes and, of course, seasonal pie of the apple or pumpkin kind.

But food aside, Thanksgiving weekend is also the perfect time take in some other activities with family and friends. Here are a few ways to have fun, celebrate fall and create bountiful memories this long weekend.

1 Take in the fall colours: Plan a leisurely stroll around the neighbourhood to check out the changing leaves and splendid fall hues. Or load up the family in the car and take a drive to the nearest park, walking trail or conservation area.

2 Go apple picking: Canada is ripe with farms to pick your own apples. A quick online search will provide a listing of local U-pick orchards. If you are taking children with you, make sure you choose a location that has dwarf trees for easy picking. Tip: When you find that perfect apple, don't yank the apples from the tree. Lift the apple upwards and give a sharp twist to prevent other apples from falling from the tree.

3 Bake something special together: Set a couple of hours aside to make Thanksgiving-themed cookies with family members or friends. You will find sprinkles, icing and a variety of different shaped cookie cutters, including pumpkins, maple leaves, turkeys and more in craft or kitchen stores.

4 Get spooked: Although Halloween is still a few weeks away, haunting season has already begun in many cities and towns. Check out the Internet for scary activities, such as haunted hay rides and walking tours in your area.

5 Volunteer your time: Nothing reminds us more of how much we have to be thankful for than giving back to others in need. Why not consider helping out at a local food bank, or volunteering at a homeless shelter.

Get the kids involved as you set the scene for Thanksgiving with the family. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Entertaining. Set the scene this weekend

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
For Metro

Thanksgiving brings a whole new twist to entertaining — how do you entertain family at this time of year?

Set the scene

Before you get to the cooking, there is the decorating. And why not get your kids involved in setting the Thanksgiving scene? "The kids can collect coloured leaves and fill decorative apothecary jars or bowls to bring the outdoors in," suggests Janet Lee, the Brampton, Ont.-based fashion and product development director for Home Outfitters.

Setting a kids table this year? Karl Lohnes, Metro's Décor Moment's columnist, suggests opting for bright and practical when it comes to decorating the table — think a big paper tablecloth in a bright green or orange. "We're also seeing a lot more decorative, disposable stuff — so maybe a decorative plate and then a glass one on top of it can help to decorate," he adds. "Even the Dollarama type stores have a lot of fall Thanksgiving disposables to use under a glass plate for a pattern."

What about the food?

Trish Magwood, author of In My Mother's Kitchen, sees a group of 21 family members every Thanksgiving and knows the holiday is about finding dishes that work for different generations.

"So my mom will do a turkey dinner for the adults, but then a smaller roast chicken for the kids who are eating sometimes at a different time," says Magwood. "Or we'll have the same celebratory meal and different sides. We might be having oven-roasted cauliflower with brown butter sauce or a zucchini gratin that's got a heavy gruyere flavour, but the kids might be more inclined to have the mashed potatoes with peas. So it's different side options, yet you don't have to become a diner-like cook for everyone."

Magwood also suggests thinking beyond just the big dinner — traditional Thanksgiving weekends involve multiple dinners after all. "We always do the one big dinner, one barbecue dinner and one make ahead dinner."

Do it yourself Oktoberfest

LEE ROMAN
For Metro

If you aren't into travelling to Munich to celebrate original Oktoberfest, there is an easier way. Plan your own backyard Oktoberfest party. The weather is still great for barbecuing and, you have to admit it, fall is just a great time to have a party — lederhosen or no lederhosen.

Make it an authentic German feast

Any Oktoberfest celebration worth going to starts with a menu of hearty German fare. Sausages, sauerkraut, potato dumplings, and schnitzel are just a few must-have dishes to serve to your company. Throw in an apple tart or strudel for desert and your guests will be nothing short of impressed. A good way to find the freshest food and get in the right mood for Oktoberfest is by shopping for ingredients at the local farmers' market or at fall fairs. Consider picking up a good German cookbook for some authentic menu recommendations. And don't forget one of the most important items of all — beer. When your guests ask "what can we bring," suggest that they surprise you with a choice of German lagers.

It's simple to serve up Oktoberfest close to home. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Create a willkommen atmosphere

Make the night come alive with light. You will find a good selection of colourful candles, lanterns and colourful indoor and outdoor lights at many craft stores, and home and garden centres. Stop by a travel agency and ask if it has some promotional posters for Germany, which you can pin up outside and around the house. Play some traditional oompah band music to get everyone in the Oktoberfest spirit. If the weather is nice, plan to eat outside — just like they do in Germany.

Set your table with style

Make your guests think they are in Bavaria, home to Oktoberfest, by decorating your table with splashes of cobalt blue and snow white, the official colours of Bavaria.

Or add place mats, runners and napkins in the bold colours of the German flag: Black, red, and gold.

Create a centrepiece of dried flowers, wheat sheaths or Bavarian floral favourite — geraniums.

If you want to make table setting easy, you can find Oktoberfest decorations, including cups, napkins and plates at party and craft stores.

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Lemon Meringue Custard Pie

This recipe serves four to six. RYAN SZULC, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S FAMILY FAVORITES (WHITECAP BOOKS)

This is a twist on a Lemon Meringue Pie — the filling has a creamier, custard-like texture. The meringue doesn't leak and holds its shape for at least two days in the fridge.

1. Preheat the oven 350 F. Lightly coat a 9-inch pie pan with cooking spray.

Ingredients

Makes one nine-inch pie

Crust
- 1 1/2 cups vanilla wafer crumbs (made from 3 cups vanilla wafers)
- 2 tbsp water
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil

Filling
- 1 can (14 oz) + 2/3 cup low-fat sweetened condensed milk
- 1 tbsp lemon zest
- 1/2 cup lemon juice (freshly squeezed)
- 3 egg yolks (save the whites)

Meringue
- 3 egg whites
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/8 tsp cream of tartar
- 3 tbsp water

2. Crust: Combine crumbs, water and oil bowl. Pat into the sides and bottom of the pie pan.

3. Filling: Combine condensed milk, lemon zest, lemon juice and egg yolk. Let sit 10 mins. until thickened. Pour into pie pan and bake 20 mins. or just until the mixture is set.

4. Meanwhile, make the meringue. Combine egg whites, sugar, cream of tartar and water in a clean bowl. With electric beater, whip at the highest setting for about 8 mins. or until stiff peaks form. Spread over the lemon filling.

5. Increase the oven temperature to 375 F and bake for 10 minutes or until meringue is just lightly browned. Chill until cold and cut into 4 small slices. ROSE REISMAN'S FAMILY FAVORITES (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Nutritional analysis

Per serving (1 slice)

257 calories; 5.1 g protein; 45 g carbohydrates; 0.3 g fibre; 5 g total fat; 1.9 g saturated fat; 54 mg cholesterol; 87 mg sodium

Drink of the Week

Orange, Banana and Cinnamon Slushie

For a sweet dessert in a cup, try this Orange, Banana, Cinnamon Slushie drink with its tasty dash of cinnamon.

It's the perfect mid-day snack.

- 3 cups lightly crushed ice
- 1 cup no-pulp orange juice
- 2 bananas
- 1/2 cup agave syrup or honey
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- Pinch salt

Combine crushed ice, orange juice, bananas, agave, cinnamon and salt in a blender.

Purée the ingredients until smooth. You may need to stop the blender once or twice and stir the ingredients with a spoon in order to keep them moving in the blender.

Serve immediately.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Student Voice

Employers, keep an equal eye out for arts students

Fionn Smyth
Graduate
Bachelor of Arts in Labour Studies and Theatre & Film
McMaster University

TalentEgg.ca

After graduating with no job I took the opportunity to participate in J'Explore and learn French in a semi-immersion environment. After that I spent about six weeks constantly applying to work in full- time entry level positions either in my field or that could get me somewhere I wanted to go.

Finally I got a job but soon found out that it was not for me. After that I took a full-time position at Starbucks as a barista and was soon promoted to supervisor, however I still feel that there is more I could be doing with my education. Don't get me wrong, my job pays my bills, but I'm looking for more than that.

My recommendations for employers, schools and career centres

I recommend that schools do more for their students in the arts. As someone who took a combined honours degree I found it nearly impossible to figure out which route to take or even how to pursue things that I wanted. While some arts students do get the attention that they deserve I often found that I had to do a lot more digging than my colleagues in engineering or sciences.

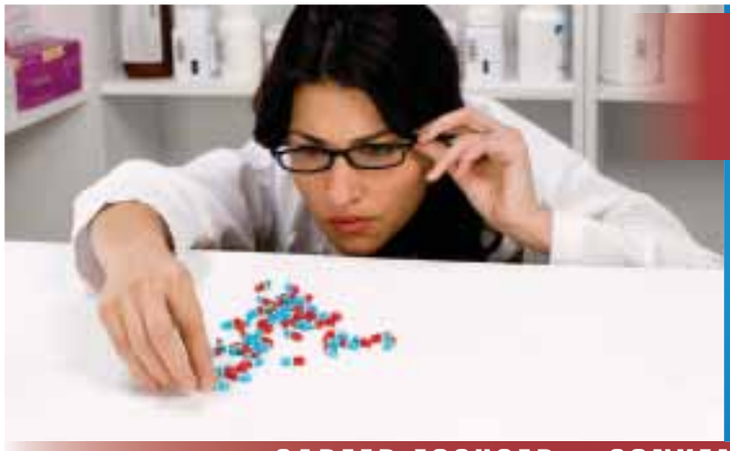
What I'm doing now

Right now I'm still at Starbucks as a supervisor. I had different ideas in mind for this time of my life. I'm just paying my bills and trying to get ahead. I'm still looking for something that will be more fulfilling on the whole and something that will let me use my education. I'm also applying to teacher's college for the fall of 2013 but with the job market the way it is there is still a long way to go.

My advice for students and recent grads

Don't give up hope. Keep on figuring out what you love to do and what uses your potential to the fullest. Don't be afraid to leave a job that you don't love and don't get too discouraged.

Fionn Smyth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Show me the money-related role

Take this advice to the bank. Making cents of an interview in financial services

ISHANI NATH
TalentEgg.ca

Sweaty palm syndrome can be solved by getting a handle on the job description. ISTOCK

Interviews can be scary. Between talking about your experience without talking too much, being easy-breezy but not too casual, and trying to hide your nervousness under your best business suit, there are many factors that can result in a good (or disastrous) job interview. In the financial services sector, like in many industries, the interview stage is when companies determine if you're a good fit for the job on a personal and professional level. We spoke with Nancy Moulday, manager of recruitment at TD Business Banking, to find out what sums up to a great interview in the financial services:

Know the job posting

"In preparing for the interview, it's important to take a look at those traits and behaviours that the interviewer and company are looking for," says Nancy. Therefore, she says, let the job listing be your guide when gearing up for the big day. When creating a job description, companies highlight the behaviours and skills that they're looking for in applicants. The key points outlined in the listing will give you a framework for answering some of the general questions (e.g., 'Describe your greatest success') and an opportunity to practice. Nancy adds that you should take care to not over prepare — interviewers aren't looking for the perfect answers word-for-word. Just be able to reflect back on your experiences and have examples that fit the job description at the ready.

Ask what to expect

Different jobs will require different styles of interviews. It is completely within the rights of the candidate to ask the interviewer what to expect from your interview, says Nancy. She says most companies are very up front about what form the meeting will take and are happy to share it with candidates to help them better prepare. In the financial services industry, it is particularly important to ask these questions in case testing will be involved, such as a financial statement analysis or business case review. Knowing what's involved in advance will ensure that you show up to the interview with the necessary tools (e.g., calculator, pens, etc.) and the necessary knowledge.

Bring a portfolio

Interviews are an opportunity for you to showcase how great you are, and it's important to have the paper to back it up. Nancy recommends that all candidates show up to their interviews with two copies of their resumé – one for their own review and one for the interviewer. She says you should also put together a binder or folder that contains the job listing, a cover letter, and any other documents that were specifically requested in the job description. Additional documents can include things such as proof of specific accreditation, reference letters and any previous work that you may be discussing during your interview.

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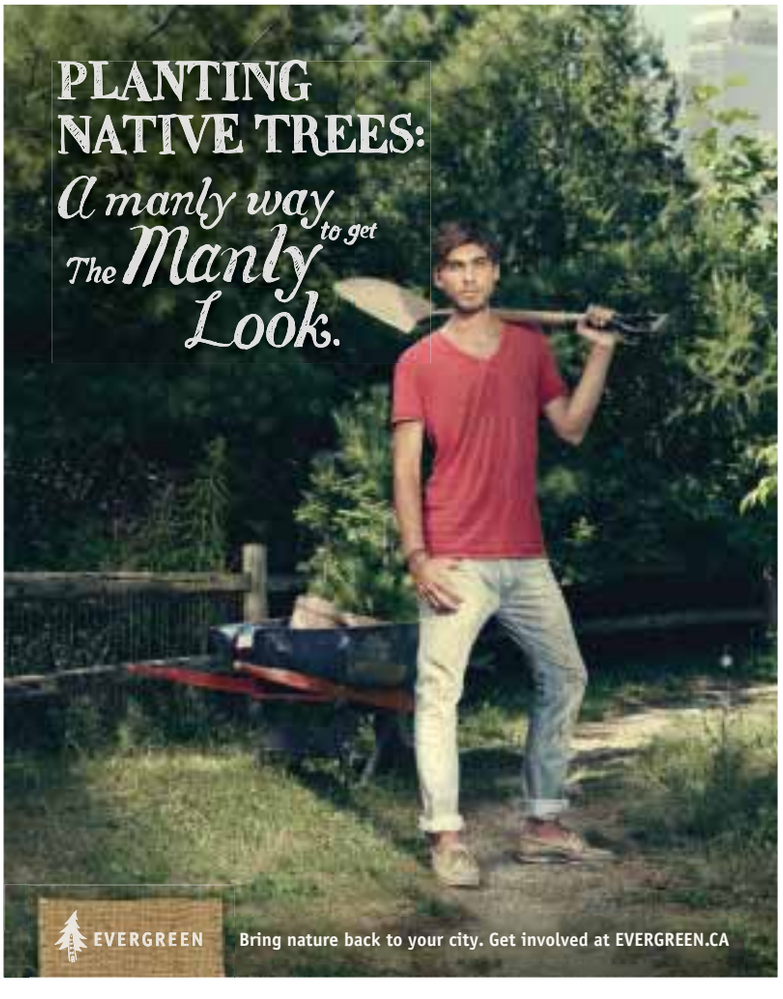
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5 FABULOUS CITIES TO VISIT

Take a walk on the wild side … in these five amazing cities.

DISCOVER: MUSIC SCENE IN MONTREAL

Whether you are into French hip hop, dance clubs or live indie rock, Montreal after dark is the place to be. Head over to SAT, a slick warehouse and new media space for DJs and performance artists, Le Social, a bohemian hangout in a 19th-century mansion, or La Sala Rossa, a performance hall for touring bands. And check the paper because depending on where you are in the city, entire blocks are often closed to traffic for free concerts. Find your peeps, settle in — and let loose!

HEIGHTENED EXPERIENCE: NIGHTLIFE IN BERLIN

Berlin's nightlife is filled with wild abandon and contagious energy … people are jammed into cafés and underground bars that are spinning tunes and fun well beyond dawn. What makes it especially electrifying is all of this is happening amidst historical remnants (the German capital staged a revolution, was headquartered by Fascists and bombed to bits in the 20th century). All you have to do is surrender to the blissed-out haze of beats and booze …

DRAMATIC: BONDI BEACH IN SYDNEY

Sydney, Australia, is a maze of sandstone headlands, lazy bays — and legendary surf beaches. The most famous is Bondi Beach, which is just several kilometres from the city centre. Dunk yourself into the consistently great foaming swells for a rough-and-tumble swim (the average water temperature is 21 C). The beach is always swarming, there's lots happening in street cafés, and there are also salt-water sea baths at either end of the beach.

PUSHING BOUNDARIES: EDGY CAMDEN TOWN IN LONDON

Camden Town is where it's happening in London, England. This area has been the centre of alternative culture since the '60s, and today it's a grungy paradise for Goths, punks and everyone in between. Check out the world-famous Camden Market for one-off clothing finds as well as lots of food stalls from around the world. Camden Town is also home to Abbey Road Studios and a slew of music venues and shops that reflect London's amazing musical history.

STIMULATE: DAKHLA, MOROCCO

One of the most exotic places to feel the power of the wind as it propels you across the water on a kite board is Dakhla. This western Sahara Desert town is one of the world's greatest wind — and kite-board surfing destinations! It's located on a narrow 48-kilometre long peninsula that stretches into the Atlantic Ocean and creates a huge lagoon. It's in that sandy lagoon where beginners and pros celebrate constant winds all year, flat water, great weather and lots of space. Grab your boards and go.

DAVID DE LOSSY/PHOTODISC/THINKSTOCK

FLICKR/CREATIVE COMMONS/MICHAEL ZIMMER

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MLB

Cabrera on the cusp of winning Triple Crown

Miguel Cabrera had two hits and drove in two runs before leaving in the fifth inning, and the Kansas City Royals rallied to beat his AL Central champion Detroit Tigers 4-2 Tuesday night.

With one game remaining in the regular season, Cabrera leads the American League in average (.331), home runs (44) and RBIs (139), putting him on the brink of becoming the first Triple Crown winner since Boston's Carl Yastrzemski in 1967. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miguel Cabrera smiles after hitting a two-run single in Kansas City, Mo., on Tuesday. ED ZURGA/GETTY IMAGES

Orioles shut out Rays to remain in race for AL East

Another one-run victory by the Baltimore Orioles pushed the AL East race to the final day of the season.

Chris Davis homered for the sixth straight game and the Orioles overcame a club-record 15 strikeouts by Tampa Bay pitcher James Shields to beat the Rays 1-0 Tuesday night.

Baltimore remains one game behind the first-place New York Yankees, who rallied behind the bat of Raul Ibanez to beat the Boston Red Sox 4-3. Ibanez hit a two-run homer in the ninth to force extra innings, and then cashed in Francisco Cervelli with a single in the 12th.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Winnipeg Blue Bombers quarterback Buck Pierce talks to coaches during a CFL game against the Toronto Argonauts in Winnipeg on Saturday. Pierce has been diagnosed with a mild concussion following a hit from Argos linebacker Brandon Isaac. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Concussed Pierce's status up in the air

CFL. Blue Bombers QB questionable for Monday's match following latest injury

Winnipeg quarterback Buck Pierce has a mild concussion but coach Tim Burke says it's still possible he might play Monday in Montreal.

"He has one more test that he has to clear before he'll be cleared to play," Burke said Tuesday. "He will be evaluated tomorrow and if it goes another day he'll be evaluated after that, so however long it takes for him to pass that test is when he's able to play."

Pierce was struck on the chin and knocked down Saturday in the first quarter by a helmet hit from Toronto Argonauts linebacker Brandon Isaac. He went to the dressing room but returned for a few plays before again leaving the field. He reported a headache initially that didn't go away, although Burke said he talked to the eight-season veteran Tuesday and he said he was feeling fine.

Burke also said he's heard nothing from the CFL about any action against Isaac over the hit. The Argos received a roughing the passer call.

It was only Pierce's second game since returning from a foot injury that sidelined him July and Burke says naturally it was disappointing to see him hurt again.

"Very disappointing in the respect that he would have to take a hit like that, No. 1. I don't know how many people would have come away from that hit without having some kind of an injury.

"Fortunately, it's a mild concussion and not anything really bad or anything like that. It's nothing that's a career-ender by any stretch of the imagination."

There have been calls for Pierce to hang up his cleats over this, his latest in a series of injuries, but Burke says that's a choice the player must make for himself.

"Career decisions are up to Buck, not up to anybody else."

If Pierce doesn't play Monday, Burke said backup Joey Elliott will take his place.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pretty in pink

For the second straight year, CFL players will be wearing pink-coloured items in league games this month in an effort to help raise awareness for women's cancers.

- The initiative will be implemented in games played from Oct. 12 through to Oct. 20.
- Reebok will provide CFL players with pink items such as gloves, wrist bands and shoelaces. On-field officials are expected to use pink whistles.

Talks stall as lockout bill climbs to $100M

The NHL lockout has already cost the league almost $100 million in lost revenue.

That figure will likely end up looking like chump change by the time the sport's latest labour dispute is settled.

Talks broke off quickly between the league and the NHL Players' Association on Tuesday morning and deputy commissioner Bill Daly emerged from the meeting saying he didn't have "any progress to report." For the first time, he also revealed the extent of the damage the lockout has inflicted so far — "close to" $100 million after the cancellation of the entire pre-season schedule.

"That is not going to be recouped and that's going to cost both sides," Daly told reporters in New York. "That's unfortunate but it's a reality of where we are."

The revelation didn't elicit much sympathy from the union. Executive director Donald Fehr pointed out the sides could have continued negotiating past the Sept. 15 expiry of the last agreement.

"If this is a loss, this is a loss that is entirely of their own making," Fehr told The Canadian Press in an interview. "They're the ones that did this; nobody told them to."

Quoted

"We're still focused on doing what we can to minimize the damage."

NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly on the looming cancellation of regular-season games

The $100 million lost so far represents approximately three per cent of the total amount of hockey-related revenue generated last season — essentially the pool of money the sides need to agree to split up.

The 17-day lockout hasn't yet resulted in the cancellation of any meaningful games. However, with the regular season scheduled to begin on Oct. 11, it's only a matter of time before that happens.

There are currently no other bargaining sessions planned. Fehr spoke with commissioner Gary Bettman by phone on Tuesday afternoon and is hopeful negotiations could resume in Toronto before the end of the week.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

Qriket

Three-time Olympic medallist Silken Laumann is blasting Rowing Canada's decision to part ways with men's eights coach Mike Spracklen. No reasons were given, but Spracklen has had a fractious relationship with Rowing Canada for years.

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ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE MEDIA

Style

The latest Accord that's now on sale appears more svelte, with none of the excessive front overhang that marred the previous generation. The look is more proportionally balanced and shows greater attention to detail in terms of styling execution. The sedan is far more pleasing to the eye than past efforts. The coupe, on the other hand, already deemed a good looker, has undergone a more subtle transformation and remains one of the most appealing models of its type on the road.

2013 Honda Accord

- **Types.** Two- /four-door, front-wheel-drive mid-size coupe/sedan.
- **Engines (hp).** 2.4-litre DOHC I4 (185-189); 3.5-litre SOHC V6 (278); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 with 124 kilowatt electric motor (196, net).
- **Safety.** Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain airbags; anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $25,300.

Cabin

Good looking also describes the Accord's new cabin. The artistically sculpted dashboard is a sensational piece and thankfully devoid of knob and switchgear clutter. Drivers will be particularly enamored with the clear and crisp white-on-black center gauges and the high-definition eight-inch (20- centimetre) multi-information display screen. All passengers are treated to more comfortable seating arrangements.

Fuel consumption

In explaining its CVT decision, Honda's stewards deemed it necessary to lower fuel consumption to more competitive levels, as in 7.8 l/100 km city and 5.5 highway. Those numbers are second only to the class-leading Altima's 7.4/5.0 rating.

Performance

Accords remain admirable road performers, with an enhanced feeling of sportiness and ride control. The base 2.4-litre four-cylinder (labelled "Earth Dreams") makes 185 horsepower (189 for the Sport model), up from 177. The optional 278-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 gains a mere seven ponies. Manual-transmission lovers should be pleased that the six-speed gearbox remains available with four-cylinder Accord sedans and up-level V6 coupes.

Review. Although it's smaller, Accord keeps the optional V6 and fine-tunes pretty much everything else

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Buyers expecting the ninth-generation Accord to be bigger and bolder will need to adjust their perspective concerning one of North America's most successful sedan and coupe lines.

The U.S.-built (30 years and counting) Accord maintains a conservative presence, while undergoing a complete metamorphosis in style, features and running gear.

Paraphrasing Honda's styling director David Marek, the Accord's makeover started from the inside out to ensure that occupants were treated to as much room and style as possible. Reshaping the exterior included soliciting opinions from current Accord owners who made it clear they wanted a less bulky car that didn't sacrifice overall spaciousness.

Sounds like a tall order, but Marek's design team appear to have delivered on virtually all counts. The 2013 Accord sedan is about nine centimetres shorter and loses about 2.5 centimetres between the front and rear wheels while gaining a centimetre in width. At the same time, trunk space has increased by five per cent, thanks in part to a more compact rear suspension.

In early 2013, Honda will introduce the Accord plug-in hybrid. In this format, a 2.0-litre four-cylinder is mated with a 124-kilowatt electric motor to produce 196 net horsepower. The plug-in travels up to 24 kilometres on electric-only power, can run on grid juice at speeds up to 100 km/h and has a maximum 700-kilometre range.

The clincher is it takes three hours — a relatively short time — on standard 120-volt house current to replenish the lithium-ion battery (about 10 minutes for a 50-percent charge), or about an hour using a 240-volt charger.

Honda plans to introduce a non-plug-in hybrid by mid-2013, giving the Accord a one-two punch in the eco-sedan category.

A new Sport model adds bigger wheels, paddle shifters for the CVT and small deck spoiler. The beauty is that you don't need to buy the V6 to get the goodies.

The Accord has never been about the "wow factor", but more the "smart factor." As such — despite the smaller overall package — there's actually more interior volume.

By comparison

1 Ford Fusion
Base price: $23,000.
New design will get attention. V6 replaced by EcoBoost turbofour-cylinder.

2 Nissan Altima
Base price: $25,300
Fuel-economy champ is new for 2013; CVT is the only transmission choice.

3 Chevrolet Malibu
Base price: $26,500.
Handsome sedan cuts the flab, replaces V6 for partial hybrid option.

5 DRIVE

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news.

The art of parts chasing in style

Autoknow. New York City and parts chasing ... sounds like the perfect mini vacation wrapped up into a work trip

JOE KNYCHA
wheelbasemedia.com

Parts chasing most likely began the very second that the very first stone wheel was carved.

Parts chasing is the art of finding stuff you need ... and going to get it. With cellphone cams and video, email and eBay, you might not have to look very long for parts, but you still might have to travel far — very far — to get them.

So when a certain project vehicle requires a set of specific hard-to-find seats to get the interior under way, it doesn't take very long to locate them ... 1,491 kilometres away in Baltimore, Md. And then there's that fateful phrase: "Local pickup only."

Another wonderful piece of online technology called Mapquest tallies up the distance, shows you the route and even gives you an idea of how many hours or days of work you'll need to ditch so you can make the trip.

This is truly amazing when you think about how people chased down parts 15 years ago: vague rumours; detective work; guessing; no photos and aimlessly roaming the countryside in search of treasure, which was largely just junk.

Now, however, one phone call to Beltsville Auto Recyclers in Baltimore and the trip was on to secure what appeared to be the only available 2008 Chrysler Sebring front bucket seats on the face of the Earth that were not actually attached to the rest of the Sebring.

Like most normal businesses with a front door, Beltsville isn't open on the weekend, which just happens to be the only convenient time for two road-trippers to make the pick-up.

"Well then, we'll be there Monday morning at 8 a.m. and then drive like H-E-double-hockey-sticks to get back home for Tuesday."

A Beltsville staffer says he'll have the seats on a palette and ready to roll so it's time to hit the road. But while parts chasing 15 years ago — usually closer to home — might have taken a few hours on a weekend in an old half-ton truck, today we require a comfortable ride that can handle the load for 32 hours of driving and not, repeat not, consume the hotel budget via the gas tank.

Hotel budget? Although parts chasing is not exactly a dream vacation, a little creative thinking puts the fearless transporters in the middle of New York City for the weekend preceding the pick-up.

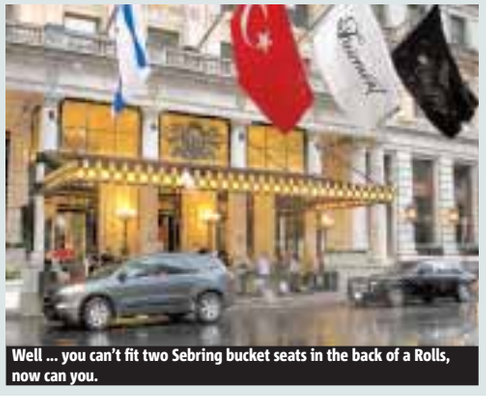
It might also be necessary to break up 32 hours of driving and perhaps the only way to entice a co-pilot to come along for the ride.

The Chevrolet Traverse easily swallows two bucket seats. Since shipping wasn't an option, a 3,000-kilometre drive to get them was the only way. Road trip! ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Traverse + parts hunting = awesome

Arriving — eventually — at The Plaza hotel in Manhattan against an unrelenting river of taxicabs and rainfall, the Traverse was somewhat outgunned by a Rolls-Royce parked in behind, but it nicely acquitted itself in terms of cargo space and real-world functionality once at Beltsville two days later to pick up the seats.

- As with most cargo areas, the Traverse's is lined with soft textured plastic that is very easy to mark up, which, to the casual observer appears as premature wear or even abuse, even after a very short time. To reduce the ugliness, you need to strap down any right-angled cargo and even cover the edges with tape to prevent damage to the paneling.
- The big news, of course, is the vehicle's solid fuel economy, about 9.8 l/100 km on the highway for this all-wheel-driver (the standard model is front-wheel-drive), especially relative to the Traverse's large stature and Sebring-seat toting prowess. Part of this comes from an engine update that moves the fuel injectors into the combustion chambers from the intake-manifold ports. With advanced engine management (a hotshot computer), the Traverse runs with very little fuel when cruising and at the same time the improved combustion efficiency aids power.
- What's not to like? Line the cargo area with plywood and the Traverse is the modern version of a parts-chaser ride, no matter how far you have to go or what route technology has you taking to get there.



Well ... you can't fit two Sebring bucket seats in the back of a Rolls, now can you.

Chevy Traverse

Making the grade

When you basically live in a vehicle for four days, this is what the console top looks like.

The only vehicle that makes the grade for such a trek is a wagon that's large enough to pack enough laundry, road snacks, iPods, computer gear and two extra seats for four days of tolerable travel.

Fifteen years ago, we would have likely picked a Chevrolet Suburban for the task, but since gas money no longer grows on trees, there are many more offerings today that are also thrifty-ish, which certainly factors into whether picking up seats located 1,491 kilometres away is a fiscally intelligent move in the first place.

So, from our press fleet we select a Chevrolet Traverse — the current model and not the tweaked 2013 edition — which is similar to the GMC Acadia and the fashion-statement Buick Enclave. The seven-passenger rig is loaded up with leather seats, two sunroofs, climate control, DVD entertainment, a punchy stereo, but sadly no navigation, and comes with a 288-horsepower 3.6-litre V6. By the way, that's more power than the V8 Suburban from 15 years ago.

No matter what vehicle you compare it to, the Traverse is large, certainly one of the biggest in class, and its slightly nose-heavy feel hints at that. However, the vehicle absolutely excels at comfy low-stress highway cruising and wading through the torrential rains that plague the better part of the getting-there leg. A smooth ride with a slightly soft rear suspension will keep long-distance travelers fresh and alert, which is handy when heading into New York City with the attitude that a map is somehow optional.

JOE KNYCHA IS A WRITER WITH WHEELBASE MEDIA. YOU CAN MESSAGE HIM USING THE CONTACT FORM AT WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM. WHEELBASE MEDIA IS A WORLDWIDE PROVIDER OF AUTOMOTIVE NEWS AND FEATURES STORIES.

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On the cutting edge of cuteness

Fiat 500c. The 'That's SOOOO adorable!' factor is often ignored in auto innovation, but car makers have made great strides

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Mike Goetz found himself blasting heavy metal with the windows rolled down when driving this cutie-pie just to balance things out. MIKE GOETZ

Automotive technology is advancing at breakneck speeds. Just look at what's happened over the last few years to powertrain electrification, Internet connectivity, safety systems and fuel efficiency.

But today I would like to draw your attention to an area of auto tech that seems to get less attention than those aforementioned ones, but is nonetheless just as astonishing in its recent advances: Cuteness.

Automakers have always built cute cars, of course, but now they really mean business. The cute cars of yesteryear were mostly cute because they were loveable underdogs that didn't really measure up to the other vehicles on the road. Reinvented versions of the Volkswagen Beetle and Mini changed all that, and paved the way for modern cuteness. Now you can have a perfectly modern, useable car that is also as cute as the dickens.

No other vehicle has embraced this powerful formula as the Fiat 500c. I recently took a white one home for a week's test. Actually, it wasn't white, it was Blanco Perla with a Bordeaux retractable fabric red top, and matching red leather seats.

It was just too precious.

When I first showed up with it, all the females in our house, and lots on our street, came wandering over to take it all in. All of them loved the car, loved the colour combination, and said it was really cute.

But "really cute" wasn't strong enough for them. They had to add length, as in, "It's REEEALLY cute" and syllables: "It's really CA-YOOOOT."

Fiat Canada said females and males buy regular 500 models in an equal 50/50 split. The Fiat Cabrio and its extra level of cuteness? Seventy per cent female; 30 per cent male.

The company didn't have the female/male split for this particular white/red colour scheme, but I'm guessing 95/5. The overall look is a little bit too "lovely handbag" for most guys.

I think most guys get and appreciate cuteness. It's just that we have more natural defence to deal with it. We can walk away. Cuteness hits women where they live. When they see something like this Fiat, they get a visceral desire to take it home and give it a bath, or give it a hallowed place in the closet next to the other fashion accessories.

Driving something this cute is certainly different.

I found myself keeping the radio tuned to heavy metal, with the windows rolled down, just to, you know, balance things out a bit.

Both women and men check it out. I could be wrong, but after checking out the car, men seem also to check out whose driving it ... expecting a certain gender perhaps? Women, on the other hand, only have eyes for your car. They are not concerned about the driver. They are concerned about the cuteness of the car.

But no matter which chromosomes you have, or if you like the Fiat 500c or not, we need to appreciate the engineering, the high-tech, cutting-edge cuteness of the little Italian coupe — another shining example of automotive progress.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may have all the facts on your side but if you expect rivals to admit it, you will be disappointed. Some people are simply too stubborn to change their point of view. Sound like anyone you know?

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
What you want to do and what others want you to do are two entirely different things. It won't be long before you are free to come and go as you please but for now you may have to follow the herd.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You are on the verge of a major gain, so any minor setbacks you may encounter today are worth suffering. Creatively and romantically this is very much your time of year, so make sure you enjoy it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
It's good to be romantic but watch out that attraction does not become infatuation. If you allow your love life to distract you from your work both will suffer in the long-term. Do the right thing at the right time.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You are taking your money situation too seriously. From today, however, you will start to see that things are not as bad as you have allowed yourself to believe. It's strange but somehow they never are.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Not everyone can be as lucky as you. Not everyone can be as smart and funny and popular. Keep that fact in mind today when engaging people you find difficult to deal with. Maybe they're just jealous.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You have a great future but for some reason you seem more concerned with your past at the moment. Put yesterday and last year out of your mind, completely. What's done is done and cannot be undone.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What occurs today may appeal to your zany sense of humour but try to remember that not everyone sees things the same way as you. Have a good laugh by all means but laugh with people, not at them.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are tempted to confide in someone you work with but the planets warn that may not be a good idea. Keep personal information to yourself over the next 24 hours. Don't give anything away.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Get away from your usual surroundings and do something that energizes you physically, mentally and emotionally. You have been pushing yourself far too hard of late. You need a break.

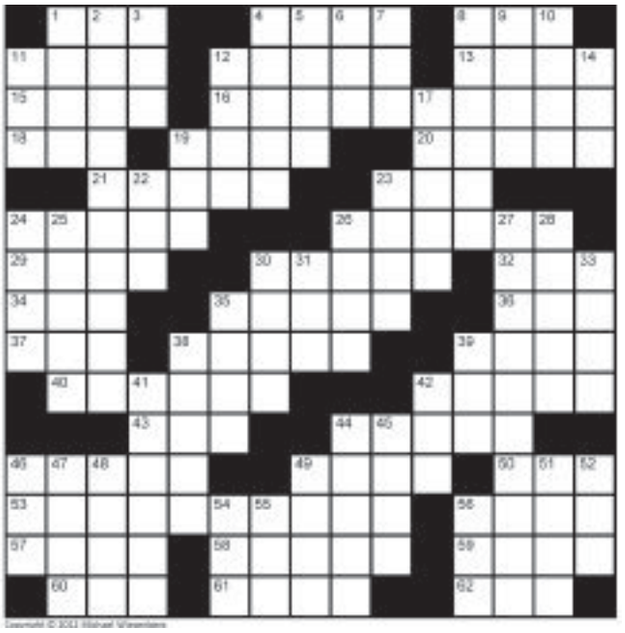
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You can expect some major, maybe extraordinary things to happen between now and the end of the week. They may not always be good things but good things will come of them in some guise or other.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Everyone has standards but you need to realize that not everyone's standards will be as high as your own. If you can do that, you are less likely to get angry when others' efforts fall short of expectations.

SALLY BROMPTON

Pick Your Own Title

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Upper limb
4. Spoken
8. CD ancestors
11. *Yours* or *to you* (singular): Fr. (2 wds.)
12. "___ Billie Joe": 1967 Bobbie Gentry song (2 wds.)
13. Acorn-dropping trees
15. Deafening
16. Maritime Province (2 wds)
18. Lower limb
19. Australian birds with green eggs
20. Foe
21. Float in place
23. Boxer Muhammed ___, the former Cassius Clay
24. Carried, as by the wind
26. Edmonton NHL team
29. Make ___ with: impress someone (2 wds.)
30. Banquets
32. And so on: abbr.
34. Unhappy
35. Casting director's assignments
36. Cause surface damage to
37. Before: poetic
38. Halifax-born singer McLachlan
39. Completely naked
40. Yellowknife is 400 miles south of this Circle
42. Apply juice, as to a turkey
43. Fled on foot
44. Call off (a mission), in NASA-speak
46. Book of maps
49. All over again
50. Recede, as the Bay of Fundy tide
53. Dentifrice
56. Burn the midnight oil studying
57. Comfortable state
58. Foreigner
59. Nevada's "The Biggest Little City in the World"
60. ___ Moines, Iowa
61. Votes cast in favor
62. Not even

Down
1. Dip ___ in the water: test bath temperature (2 wds.)
2. Saskatchewan CFL team member
3. Central
4. Smell
5. Guns, as an engine
6. ___ loss for words (2 wds.)
7. ___ Angeles
8. Dollar coin
9. Appetizer spread
10. ___ milk: 0% fat
11. Everything
12. "This one's ___": "My turn to buy" (2 wds.)
14. Speak
17. Biological building blocks
19. Night before
22. Quebec neighbour: abbr.
23. Is sick
24. Air Force installation
25. Scarlett ___
26. Promise
27. "'Digitally ___": fresh copy made from the original, in a DVD or CD notice
28. Begin
30. ___ Garneau: first Canadian in outer space
31. Historic period of note
33. They were among the original inhabitants of Ontario
35. Ache
38. Hidden cache
39. Tavern
41. Packing cases
42. Acknowledge applause
44. Puts money into a poker pot before cards are dealt
45. "What's ___ happening?"
46. Consumed
47. Frog's land-based cousin
48. Be an unsuccessful gambler
49. Largest continent
51. Group of marching musicians
52. RBC competitor
54. Earnings
55. Hearty pub order
56. ___-Magnon man

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

		4	6		2			
	3					4	9	
6	7				1	8		
2		8	7				3	
				9				
	1				4	7		5
		9	4				1	7
	2	7					5	
			5		8	9		

Yesterday's Sudoku

Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAX: 12° MIN: 7°	MAX: 6° MIN: -6°	MAX: 4° MIN: -7°

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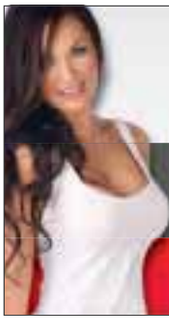

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